

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-16 remain pending in the application.

Allowed Claims 6-13, 15 and 16

The Applicants again thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 6-13, 15 and 16 are allowed.

Claims 1-3 and 5 over Kojima

Claims 1-3 and 5 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,886,999 to Kojima ("Kojima"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-3 and 5 recite a receiver to receive a transmitted plurality of time slot based data frames, wherein less than all, but more than one, of the plurality of time slot based data frames, as transmitted, including a sync word, a monitor to monitor clock drift and an adjustor to adjust a clock signal if the clock drift is greater than a predetermined value.

Kujima appears to disclose a sync word SWV, SWA and SWM as are applied to a head of a video portion VDT, an audio portion ADT and other media data portions MDT, respectively (See col. 6, lines 43-56). The purpose of Kujima's invention is to stop a multimedia signal if the quality level produces offensive noise, with a stop signal initiated when a sync word is not detected (see col. 7, lines 5-27).

Thus, Kujima's invention is directed toward stopping of a multimedia signal if a sync word is not detected. Kujima lacks any relevance to adjusting a clock signal based on clock drift caused by a lack of sync words, much less disclose or suggest a receiver to receive a transmitted plurality of time slot based data frames, wherein less than all, but more than one, of the plurality of time slot based data frames, as transmitted, including a sync word, a monitor to monitor clock drift and an adjustor to adjust a clock signal if the clock drift is greater than a predetermined value, as recited by claims 1-3 and 5

A benefit of using less than all, but more than one, of a plurality of time slot based data frames and adjusting a clock signal to compensate for clock

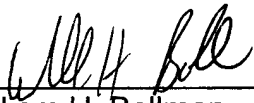
drift is, e.g., reduced bandwidth. Conventionally, clock drift is controlled by syncing a clock generator with a sync word. However, repeatedly transmitted sync words consumes bandwidth that can be used to transmit other forms of data. Thus, reducing the number of transmitted sync words and adjusting a clock signal to compensate for the reduced number of sync words allows for more data to be transmitted within a system with less overhead. The cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed features having such benefits.

For at least these many reasons, claims 1-3 and 5 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William H. Bollman
Reg. No. 36,457

MANELLI DENISON & SELTER PLLC

2000 M Street, NW 7TH Floor
Washington, DC 20036-3307
TEL. (202) 261-1020
FAX. (202) 887-0336
WHB/df